

ILLEGIB

25X

1. Still think this artificial numbering system in the introduction ought to be abandoned in favor of the usual type of summary. If nothing else were gained, you would at least reduce unwonted emphasis on not-too-brilliant sounding points like the improbability of attempted ^{25X6} dominance in Latin America. Minor considerations like this could be better incorporated into a paragraph of miscellany.

Another and similar approach would combine the political and military in one very brief summary; then place separate summaries before each part.

2. Body p. 2. This is the nub of the big argument of the other day, and I suppose there is little that could develop in it now but an impasse, but poisonally, I just don't find it convincing even yet. The argument, so far as I can see, is mainly based on the word "inconceivable" which doesn't support an argument. Over and above this, it says that ^{25X6} faced with physical destruction would give prior consideration to ideological destruction. Well, would ^J they? As ^{ILLEGIB} of today, contemplating this eventuality as something in the remote future---probably so. But, as ^{25X1A}

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the fuse is lit, you can do some quick and sometimes peculiar thinking. Even the

25X6

might, under such circumstances and perhaps vaguely to their surprise,

find quite a lot of sweetness and light in the Soviet system, given proper

international cooperation and a chance of 25X6 leadership. Even if this

view is ~~what~~ is 179.9° off the beam, oughtn't it to be given a chance? Can

we state any more than that we believe that, even in the most stringent

circumstances, the 25X6 would never fail us and give the most cogent possible reasons to substantiate our position?

Or, if we can't be 100% convincing on this crucial point, ~~why~~ wouldn't

it be better simply to admit that the 25X6 like any other people, will have to be watched?

(p.9) The Near East section is better because it goes into more considerations,

but a lot of it sounds practically like double-talk to me. E.G. "Nevertheless,

an increasing identity of views between the US and the 25X6 is likely to flow

from the presently increased coordination, although the extent of 25X6 holdings

will compel the 25X6 to retain a strong voice in future joint policies regarding

25X6." Among other things, the ultimate question I asked last time is still

unanswered: if it became a question of the US or 25X6, what would the 25X6 do?

From 1st draft of ORE 79-49---Technical aspects, p. 18:

"Only if we should succeed in circumventing her present tight cordon, would we expect her to dredge from her Pandora's box any new hornets."

p. 48---"Until they (certain intelligence questions) are answered, we are always in the position of 'it' in Blind Man's Buff---we could just as easily pin the tail of a friend instead of a jackass."